

# ROOT AND CUMMINS LEAD IN MINNESOTA

## May Split the State Delegation if Hughes Stays Out of Race.

### GERMANS MAY UPSET ALL

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 13.—Interest in the Republican Presidential primaries to be held in Minnesota next March to select delegates to the national convention of the party increased Tuesday, when Secretary of State Julius Schmalz announced that he had the blanks ready for filing.

So far it looks as if the names of Ellhu Root of New York, Senator Cummins of Iowa, Senator L. Y. Sherman of Illinois, ex-Senator Burton of Ohio, Senator La Follette of Wisconsin, Senator Weeks of Massachusetts and probably Gov.-elect McCall of Massachusetts will get on the ballot. Senator Borah of Idaho does not appear to be very much in the running in this State.

Ex-President Taft has plenty of friends in Minnesota, and while it is not announced so far that his name will go on the ballot, due probably to an announcement credited to him in Chicago recently that he was not a candidate but favored Root, the ex-President may be voted for along with the others mentioned. Mr. Taft is coming to Duluth December 16 to deliver a non-partisan address and his prospective visit has naturally started talk about his availability as a candidate despite the poor showing he made in Minnesota in the last year's election.

The electoral vote of Minnesota in 1912 went to Roosevelt, the Progressive candidate. The popular vote of the State was as follows: Roosevelt, 105,856; Wilson, Democrat, 105,428; Taft, Republican, 64,334; Debs, Socialist, 23,211; Chaffin, Prohibitionist, 8,834; Reiter, Socialist Labor, 3,212. The Progressive movement has lost caste in the State; this is indisputable. Even were Roosevelt to run again as the Progressive candidate, few believe that he could carry the State as he did in 1912.

### Radicalism in Background.

Not only has so-called Progressivism lost caste in the State, but it is generally being relegated to the background, giving way to a feeling that more conservatism, especially in legislation, is the need of the hour. Many Minnesotans feel that this State has had enough of "isms" and too much of radical legislation.

The initiative and referendum and recall as amendments to the State Constitution were submitted to the people at the last general election and defeated. They came up again in the form of amendments to the constitution at the next election and it is predicted they will be beaten more decisively. Woman suffrage has never been submitted to the people, but efforts to bring that about having failed in the Legislature.

The question that is uppermost in the minds of many in this State is whether or not the State will support a candidate who is a member of the primary, Root, Cummins or some of the others mentioned. As between Root and Cummins it is generally believed that the Colonel would favor the lower end of the ticket, while Root would raise a finger to help McCall, Borah or some other who is not known. Of course he would not help La Follette and naturally would be against Weeks.

Cummins is the first Republican Presidential candidate to get into the Minnesota race, and he has a strong following. He has named Clerk of Supreme Court Caswell, who is admitted to be a shrewd politician with strong Progressive proclivities, as his running mate.

Caswell was Republican national committeeman from the State in 1912, but was so incensed over the Root-Taft victory that he resigned. He is now a member of the State Bar and is a member of the Board of Education. He is a member of the Board of Education. He is a member of the Board of Education.

### Comparison of Candidates.

Has Ellhu Root much of a following in Minnesota? Ask the ordinary Republican, one of the 64,000 odd who voted for Taft, and it's dollars to doughnuts that he will reply in the affirmative. Ask one of the 125,000 odd who voted for Roosevelt in 1912, and he will scratch his head, talk about the weather and perhaps admit that Root is a brilliant man, but a trifle too far from the "people" to be considered a serious candidate in Minnesota.

This same Progressive, however, is all interest when Cummins's name is mentioned or when McCall or Sherman is spoken of, while La Follette has a host of admirers in this State. Borah, too, has his friends. As for Burton, it is admitted that he might make an acceptable candidate.

One who has kept in touch with Minnesota for years gave it as his opinion that in the final analysis in this State next March the contest in the primaries will center about a struggle between the Root and Cummins forces with the probability of a divided delegation to the national convention between the lower end of the ticket. He seemed to think that all the others mentioned would be lost in the final shuffle.

How about Justice Hughes? Despite the Justice's reiterated statement that he is not a candidate Justice Hughes has many followers in Minnesota. In the light of Justice Hughes's emphatic action in the Nebraska case his Minnesota admirers fear they have lost him as a candidate, but not a few are hoping that before the last day for filing in this State he will be prevailed upon to become a receptive candidate. If he does, the belief is that he may prove the strongest of the candidates.

Minnesota in Presidential politics is a strong Republican State, although it has been in the anomalous position of electing a Democratic Governor at the same time it cast its electoral vote for a Republican for President. The question of personal popularity of the Democratic candidates for Governor, along with some State issues, accounted for this result.

While the majority of the voters in this State are of Scandinavian nationality or descent and Republicans, there is a large German vote in the State, and this vote as a rule has favored Democratic candidates.

Now comes the issue in the campaign that cannot be avoided: these Democratic Germans will not give Woodrow Wilson the support they did three years ago. Should these disgruntled Germans walk into the primary booths next March and vote for Root, Cummins or some other Republican candidate, who can forget at this time the outcome of the primary? The German vote may upset all predictions as to the result of the March primary.

### NEWSPAPERS DROP HYPHEN.

German American Now Two Words  
in Milwaukee Press.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 13.—The Milwaukee newspapers have dropped the hyphen in the words German American and are using the designation as two separate words.

This follows a recent decision by the German American Alliance, asking its supporters to drop the hyphen from the word. The Milwaukee papers changed their custom accordingly, and the English papers followed suit.

# G. O. P. CHIEFS ADMIT HUGHES IS GAINING

Continued from First Page.

convention on the part of some Republicans. A few think that the party should follow the practice of seeing the Democratic platform before framing their own. The most serious objection, though, is that the party in West Virginia and South Dakota came early in June.

Primaries in West Virginia fall on June 15, and the date suggested for the convention, and tonight efforts were made to ascertain if this situation could be met. The South Dakota case is not so bad, as there is a provision in the South Dakota law which will permit earlier primaries.

It is still uncertain as to where the convention will be held. The efforts to be held between St. Louis and Chicago, with San Francisco also claiming that she had the necessary number of votes to land the gathering.

Later tonight it looked as if Chicago would be the convention city named by the committee.

Many promises have been made to the St. Louis committee, and efforts of political expediency. The Republicans from Missouri are arguing that if the convention is sent to St. Louis it will mean a Republican Senator to succeed James A. Reed, and a bunch of Republican electors.

### ONE MORE YEAR FOR WAR REVENUE ACT

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The proceedings were set in motion by Mr. Kitchen, who explained the condition of the Treasury and pointed out that as things are tending it was imperative that the collection of taxes under the war act should be continued without interruption.

He made it plain to the caucus that the Administration would be greatly embarrassed if Congress failed to extend the extension bill before the holidays. Mr. Kitchen was repeatedly asked what he proposed to do when the time came to frame a general tax bill, but he put off his questioners with the assurance that for the present the party was dealing with a condition and not a theory.

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### TILLMAN LASHES BOTH T.R. AND BRYAN

One Roars Like a Bull, the Other Is a Poor Evangel, He Tells Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—With a burst of language reminiscent of his earlier days in politics Senator Tillman, chairman of the Senate Civil Affairs Committee, took a fling at the men he considers to be extremists on the preparedness problem today and urged haste in the adoption of his own scheme for the erection of a Government armor plate establishment.

He pictured Col. Roosevelt as "snorting and roaring like a veritable bull of Bashan." Col. Bryan he portrayed as "the evangel of peace at any price." George von L. Meyer, ex-Secretary of the Navy, he described as "a little and mean man" from the great Commonwealth of Massachusetts, who has used "the most harsh terms about his successor, Joseph Daniels."

Other suggestions bearing on the problem of national defense and the raising of revenue also were evident in the Senate today. Senator Kenyon of Iowa introduced a resolution which was laid on the table at his request, declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that the Government should be raised by taxing the manufacture of war munitions.

Gore Has Tax Plan.

Senator Gore presented a resolution calling on the Treasury Department for an estimate of the amount of revenue obtainable by placing a duty of 1 cent a pound on 10 cents a pound on sugar, a pound on 10 cents a pound on domestic sugar and 25 cents a pound on foreign sugar.

The burden of Senator Tillman's bill was that the country should regard as a public enemy any Senator or member of Congress who tried to delay the construction of an armor plant, for which he proposes an appropriation of more than \$10,000,000. In no other way, he said, could the Government be freed from the rapacity of the armor trust.

"There are all sorts of opinions and advice from all quarters," he said, "good and bad, but only one wise, and that is to get on with it. We must have men from Borneo. Mr. Bryan, the evangel of peace at any price, is bitterly opposed to any and all increases either in the army or navy. I have been his friend both personally and politically for many years, but he seems to be simply obsessed on this subject and has lost his usual poise."

Slap at Roosevelt.

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### STOCK EXCHANGE BILL HIT.

Owen's Measure Meets a Snag in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Senator Owen's attempt to revive the Stock Exchange bill, the center of a bitter warfare in the Banking and Currency Committee last year, was promptly defeated today by a striking demonstration of conservative strength in the Senate.

With a recordized committee on which the radical sentiment was strengthened by the addition of two Democrats, Fletcher and Harding, and two Republicans, Hanna and Norris, the Senator from Oklahoma was obviously hopeful of obtaining favorable action.

Senator Owen's bill, which would be referred to the Post Office Committee, as it involves the use of the mails. This was generally admitted that as a result of this vote the Stock Exchange bill has little chance of consideration in the present Congress.

# DANIELS DEFENDS HIS PROMOTION PLAN

## Merit System Free of Politics Can Be Devised for Navy, He Says.

### OFFICERS MAKE PROTEST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—Following a storm of criticism aroused in Navy Department circles over the recommendation in his annual report for a change in the system of promoting officers, Secretary of the Navy Daniels issued tonight a statement defending his plan.

Mr. Daniels had taken the position that promotion by merit rather than by seniority should be the system employed and that the Secretary of the Navy should be at liberty to jump men over the heads of their seniors on the basis of recommendations obtained by him from their superior officers as to their fitness. Under the present system midshipmen on leaving the Naval Academy assume grade numbers corresponding with their class standing and in passing from rank to rank their elevation comes automatically as they reach the top of the list in seniority.

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After two hours debate in which sharp language was used in criticism of President Wilson's proposal to put a tax on gasoline, automobiles, bank checks, pig iron and fabricated steel products as a means of raising money to expand the army and navy, the caucus voted a mandate to extend the life of the war revenue act for one year.

As spokesman for the Administration on this occasion Representative Kitchen of North Carolina, the Democratic leader, deemed it inadvisable to ask for a resolution which would have given the war act an indeterminate span of life.

The proceedings were set in motion by Mr. Kitchen, who explained the condition of the Treasury and pointed out that as things are tending it was imperative that the collection of taxes under the war act should be continued without interruption.

He made it plain to the caucus that the Administration would be greatly embarrassed if Congress failed to extend the extension bill before the holidays. Mr. Kitchen was repeatedly asked what he proposed to do when the time came to frame a general tax bill, but he put off his questioners with the assurance that for the present the party was dealing with a condition and not a theory.

Mr. Kitchen emphasized the necessity for prompt action on the extension bill, explaining that the terms of a general bill would be indefinitely postponed until Congress had determined the amount of the additional appropriations that were to be authorized for purposes of defense.

Only 150 of the 225 Democratic members of the House are in favor of the bill extending the life of the war act. It is expected that it will be passed by a vote of 150 to 100.

It is understood that the Senate will concur in an agreement having been reached with the Senate Republicans for the holidays Saturday or Monday.

No effort was made at the caucus to include the extension bill in a resolution repealing the free sugar provision of the Underwood-Simmons law. A canvass of the House Democrats disclosed that many of the professional agitators of the bill dealing with the emergency war revenue act. A bill providing for the retention of sufficient accuracy to render a comparison possible and in the fact that such a board might, entirely unconsciously, be influenced in its recommendations by other than the public interest.

"If, however, each reporting officer instead of making his report on a scale of four be required to state whether or not the junior in question is the best, the second best or the third best officer of that grade, the question of promotion would be solved. It is in this information that the difficulty arises, and it is here that the difficulty arises, and it is here that the difficulty arises."

It is certain that such a system would exclude every officer except the senior under whom he serves."

The election of officers will take place Friday morning. After greetings from the President and Mrs. Churchill, chairman of the convention committee, at tomorrow's opening session the delegates will listen to the reports of the four campaigns from Mrs. Catt, Mrs. Frank Wilson, president of the Pennsylvania Woman Suffrage Association; Mrs. E. P. Baker, president of the New Jersey association; and Mrs. Gertrude Halliday Leonard. The plans for future campaigns will be discussed on Wednesday.

The anti-suffragists at their convention today adopted a resolution condemning the suffragists for their persistency in bringing the suffrage question before President Wilson after he had given them an answer.

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